

Amendments to the Claims

1. **(Original)** A fine particle coated with ultra-fine particles having a grain diameter smaller than that of the fine particle or a thin film on a surface of the fine particle, which is formed by carrying out a sputtering while stirring or rolling fine particles contained in a vacuum container having a polygonal internal shape in cross section by rotating the vacuum container about a rotating axis substantially perpendicular to said cross section, wherein

Said ultra-fine particle or said thin film is made of at least one of a metal catalyst, an oxide catalyst and a compound catalyst.

2. **(Original)** A fine particle coated with ultra-fine particles having a grain diameter smaller than that of the fine particle or a thin film on a surface of the fine particle, which is formed by carrying out a sputtering while stirring or rolling fine particles contained in a vacuum container having a polygonal internal shape in cross section by rotating the vacuum container about a rotating axis substantially perpendicular to said cross section while giving vibrations to said fine particles, wherein

Said ultra-fine particle or said thin film is made of at least one of a metal catalyst, an oxide catalyst and a compound catalyst.

3. **(Original)** A fine particle coated with ultra-fine particles having a grain diameter smaller than that of the fine particle or a thin film on a surface of the fine particle, which is formed by carrying out a sputtering while stirring or rolling fine particles contained in a vacuum container having a polygonal internal shape in cross section by rotating the vacuum container about a rotating axis substantially perpendicular to said cross section while directly or indirectly heating said vacuum container, wherein

Said ultra-fine particle or said thin film is made of at least one of a metal catalyst, an oxide catalyst and a compound catalyst.

4. **(Original)** A fine particle, in which ultra-fine particles having a grain diameter smaller than that of said fine particle or aggregations of said ultra-fine particles cohere continuously or discontinuously on a surface of said fine particle.

5. **(Original)** The fine particle according to claim 4, in which ultra-fine particles having a grain diameter smaller than that of said fine particle or aggregations of said ultra-fine particles cohere continuously or discontinuously onto a surface of said fine particle, which is formed by carrying out a sputtering while stirring or rolling fine particles contained in a vacuum container having a polygonal internal shape in cross section by rotating the vacuum container about a rotating axis substantially perpendicular to said cross section.

6. **(Original)** The fine particle according to claim 4, in which ultra-fine particles having a grain diameter smaller than that of said fine particle or aggregations of said ultra-fine particles cohere continuously or discontinuously on a surface of said fine particle, which is formed by carrying out a sputtering while stirring or rolling fine particles contained in a vacuum container having a polygonal internal shape in cross section by rotating the vacuum container about a rotating axis substantially perpendicular to said cross section while giving vibrations to said fine particles.

7. **(Original)** The fine particle according to claim 4, in which ultra-fine particles having a grain diameter smaller than that of said fine particle or aggregations of said ultra-fine particles cohere continuously or discontinuously onto a surface of said fine particle, which is formed by carrying out a sputtering while stirring or rolling fine particles contained in a vacuum container having a polygonal internal shape in cross section by rotating the vacuum container about a rotating axis substantially perpendicular to said cross section while directly or indirectly heating said vacuum container.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The fine particle according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 7~~ claim 4, wherein said ultra-fine particles or aggregations of said ultra-fine particles are made of at least one of a metal catalyst, an oxide catalyst and a compound catalyst.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The fine particle according to any one of the claims 1 to 3 ~~and~~ 8, wherein said metal catalyst is a metal selected from a group of Pt, Pd, Rh, Ru, Os, Ir, Re, Au, Ag, Fe, Ni, Ti, Al, Cu, Co, Mo, Mn, Nd, Zn, Ga, Ge, Cd, In, Sn, V, W, Cr, Zr, Mg, Si, P, S, Ca, Rb, Y, Sb, Pb, Bi, C and Li,

Said oxide catalyst is an oxide of one metal selected from said group,

said compound catalyst is a mixture or an alloy of a plurality of metals selected from said group, a mixture of the respective oxides of a plurality of metals selected from said group, or a mixture of at least one metal selected said group and an oxide of at least one metal selected from said group.

10. **(Currently Amended)** The fine particle according to any one of claims 1 to ~~9~~ 4, wherein said fine particle is used as an electrode catalyst or an electrode material for a primary battery, a secondary battery, a solar battery or a fuel battery.